

1 **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 82**

2 (By Senators Plymale, Wells, Beach, Browning, Edgell, Foster,
3 Laird, Stollings, Tucker, Unger and Boley)
4 [Originating in the Committee on Education]
5

6 Requesting the Joint Committee on Government and Finance conduct a
7 study to determine alternative paths for teachers and
8 principals to become certified.

9 Whereas, While the Legislature has created a provision for
10 alternative certification routes for educators; and the
11 institutions of higher education, to a limited extent, have created
12 alternative route programs; the programs at the institutions of
13 higher education closely mirror their traditional programs; and

14 Whereas, While approximately half of the pool of new teacher
15 graduates do find employment in West Virginia, and some counties
16 and some content areas do not have teacher shortages, each year
17 there remains a need for educators; and

18 Whereas, For the school year 2009-2010, approximately 1,500
19 teachers held less than a full credential for the content they were
20 assigned to teach; and

21 Whereas, There is a need for a mechanism to better support and
22 prepare educators who are in teaching positions with less than a
23 full credential; and

1 Whereas, Although there currently is no shortage of applicants
2 for administrative positions, support for beginning administrators
3 is an essential component for their success; therefore, be it

4 *Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

5 That the Joint Committee on Government and Finance is hereby
6 requested to conduct a study to determine alternative paths for
7 teachers and principals to become certified; and, be it

8 *Further Resolved,* That the study should include a comparison
9 of West Virginia's alternative certification laws and policies with
10 those of other states and also should include a comprehensive
11 review of the alternative certification programs of public teacher
12 preparation programs in the state. In order to ensure that the
13 study is conducted in as thorough of a manner as possible, it is
14 also requested that an outside consultant be hired to conduct the
15 study; and, be it

16 *Further resolved,* That the Joint Committee on Government and
17 Finance report to the regular session of the Legislature, 2012, on
18 its findings, conclusions and recommendations, together with drafts
19 of any legislation necessary to effectuate its recommendations;
20 and, be it

21 *Further resolved,* That the expenses necessary to conduct this
22 study, to prepare a report and to draft necessary legislation be
23 paid from legislative appropriations to the Joint Committee on
24 Government and Finance.